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On 12/21/03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-019200US  
Client Ref. No.: 340000017US1

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01/14/04

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**JAN 09 2004**

Technology Center 2100

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Tanaka et al.

Application No.: 09/754,169

Filed: January 3, 2001

For: STORAGE SYSTEM

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 2772

Examiner: Joseph D. Manoskey

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2184

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.